

Focus on 5th



News and Events in the 5th Grade
January 10, 2011
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Important Dates

Jan. 14	Field Trip - Lake Theater
Jan. 17	No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Jan. 18	Calling All Heroes Interviews Due
Jan. 21	MAP Testing - Reading
Jan. 24	No School - Institute Day
Jan. 28	MAP Testing - Math

Dear Families,

Our field trip to the Lake Theater is this Friday, January 14th. Permission slips went home last week. Please return the permission slip and \$6.00 to your child's homeroom teacher by Wednesday, January 12th. If you need an additional copy of the permission slip it can be found on the 5th Grade Wiki under the "Permission Slips" tab on the left hand side.

It's that time again! Parent-teacher conferences will be held on Tuesday 2/1, Wednesday 2/2 and Thursday 2/3. To meet the needs of all our families, the 5th grade team has morning and evening conference slots available. A GoogleForm was emailed to families this weekend. If we do not have an email address for you, a paper form was sent home with your child today. Once we've received your response, your child's homeroom teacher will confirm your scheduled conference time. The conference schedule will also be posted on the Wiki as well for your convenience. We will hold conferences in the same format as in the fall (rotation between all 4 teachers). Please try to be punctual and respectful of the 5 minutes allotted with each teacher so that the rotations move smoothly. Thank you!

Before Winter Break we began running low on pencils. If you are able to send any packages of pencils to school with your child next week, it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

SPECIALS

Spanish

Students started a new story last week about a Mr. Potato Head and sus problemas, *El Cuerpo Malo de Simon*. Students can read the story to someone for extra credit. It will be posted on my blog later this week.

Art

"Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time" -Thomas Merton
Find out what's happening in the Art room every week by visiting Mr. Kristofer's new blog. Go to www.owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com or go to www.op97.org/holmes where the blog is featured under the "spotlight" section.



Reading/Literature

We will take this week to focus on our Calling All Heroes project. We will study different types of heroes, examine mythological heroes and end our week analyzing, comparing and discussing how the characters in Percy Jackson acted heroically or not.

Last Friday, students were given an Interview Assignment which goes along with the Calling All Heroes project. They are to select an adult to interview about who their heroes are now and who their heroes were as a child. These interviews are due on Tuesday, January 18th.

Math

This week we will focus on the properties of polygons. Today we discussed the different types of triangles and practiced constructing congruent triangles. Last week, we began working on math extended responses in preparation for the upcoming ISAT. On the ISAT, students will be required to answer two extended response questions and will be scored on mathematical knowledge, strategic knowledge and explanation. In the next few weeks, we will discuss the extended response scoring rubric and practice scoring responses.

Science

The students worked very hard last week on conducting their investigations. This week, they will be putting together their presentations and sharing their information with their classmates. I am looking forward to seeing what they have put together!

Students who would like to retake the variables test have until Thursday, January 13th.

Social Studies

Last week we launched our Calling All Heroes project with excellent discussions in each class. This week, we will continue to discuss heroes during the American Revolution and significant battles. We also will use primary source documents, including letters written by George Washington, Abigail Adams, and Paul Revere, to understand people's feeling and motivations during the period.

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